

1. Do you support exploring additional sources of revenue for municipalities such as access to income and sales tax, thereby lessening the burden currently placed on property tax?

The Liberal Party of Newfoundland and Labrador supports exploring any and all initiatives that will lead to a more stable financial future for local communities. Working with MNL and the Professional Municipal Administrators (PMA) to find ways of expanding the revenue stream for municipal government is one of the challenges we are up for as a province. The highly successful gas tax program is one example of how working cooperatively can bring huge benefits to our citizens. We look forward to working with you to explore all possible revenue sources for towns. As we have been saying during this campaign, we want to reimagine government and how government can deliver on its core mandate to people. Working with MNL on issues of sustainability for towns in the face of declining populations and an aging demographic will be a priority for our government.

2. Will you advance efforts to support the design, funding and implementation of new, innovative infrastructure solutions that address longstanding but solvable municipal issues?

The Liberal Party of Newfoundland and Labrador is excited to work with all stakeholders within the municipal sector to advance innovative infrastructure solutions in our province. As we know, there is a major infrastructure deficit to be addressed in this country and our province is not exempt from it. Your Liberal Government believes that by working collaboratively with our partners in Ottawa and our local town councils, we can come up with strategies and innovative solutions to address this pressing need. The Invest in Canada Infrastructure Plan is one example of what can be accomplished. A \$550 Million federal commitment over ten years, matched by the province and our municipal partners, represents the largest investment in infrastructure in our history. There is more to come. On your election advocacy platform, you reference the need for more multi-year funding options for towns as opposed to annual project approvals as well as the need to implement a province-wide asset management plan for towns. Our party is supportive of these initiatives and will work with MNL to make advances in these areas.

3. Are you willing to work with MNL and the elected local leaders of this province to implement the necessary structural and legislative changes to implement regionalization in Newfoundland and Labrador?

We appreciate this important question, and our provincial government's commitment to working with MNL on this initiative is well established. In November of 2020, the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Municipalities (ECCM) established a regionalization working group with MNL and PMA. The working group is guided by a steering committee comprised of the Deputy Minister and the President and Vice-President of MNL and will provide recommendations to the Minister on how to implement effective regionalization. The working group is to report to the Minister on a "path forward" by March 31st, 2021. A number of communities have already come forward seeking to use their examples of shared services as the

basis for a new policy framework for regional governance structures. Rest assured that government's commitment to achieving success in this area is unwavering.

4. What concrete plans do you have for giving the municipal order of government a real seat at the table when making decisions about us?

While the Furey Administration can be classified as new, there are some commitments that have been a part of our government's strategy since 2015. We believe in working collaboratively with people. We believe that those who are impacted by government decisions should have input into the decision making process. We believe that avenues for input, including a seat at the table, all represent appropriate methodologies to ensure proper decision-making. When it comes to the relationship between MNL and the province, the avenues of input are many and a seat at the table is certainly one of them. By way of example, we continue to work together on a new Municipalities Act, a new regional governance steering committee, etc. It all points to a willingness on the part of our Liberal Government to utilize experienced local government officials in the decision making process. The Liberal Party of Newfoundland and Labrador has a sincere desire to work with MNL and has no hesitation in having MNL at the table when decisions impacting councils are to be made. Having a seat at the table is something we strive to accommodate whenever possible.